Libertarian National Committee

Region 7

*Region Representative - Whitney Bilyeu*

*Region Alternate - Erin Adams*



April 21-22, 2018

DENVER, CO

### ALABAMA - **Laura Lane**

#### STATE ORGANIZATION

* + - At Convention in March, an entirely new Executive Committee was elected. The focus is on creating a strategic plan to help grow membership, recruit candidates, and achieve ballot access for 2020. Committees are being established to assist with this effort.

#### STATE LEVEL MEMBERSHIP

* + - Our membership database is not up to date at the moment, but we are working to fix that. There were issues with Paypal accounts that were not set up correctly and were not recording data in NationBuilder. The Paypal issue has been corrected, but we are having to manually input data. Membership is approximately 140.

#### COUNTY NEWS

#### ELECTIONS

* + - There are three (3) candidates running for Alabama House; A.P. Godwin for District 77, Elijah Boyd for District 10, and Matt Shelby for District 96. Frank Dillman is running for Macon County Commission District 4 and Michael Reeves is running for Baldwin County Board of Education District 2. All are well on their way towards getting valid petition signatures, websites, etc. Mr. Shelby has already received enough donations to purchase literature and yard signs.
	+ BALLOT ACCESS
		- Alabama does not have ballot access at this time; past efforts to fundraise for paid petitioners fell well short of needed funding. Some volunteers are still collecting signatures, but there will not be enough to have full ballot access for Nov 2018. Most Executive Committee members, as well as general membership, feel that with no declared candidate running for U.S. office(s), that we would just be throwing away $$. Consensus is to run select, focused campaigns in a few counties, evaluate the information, and move forward based on that data.

#### LEGISLATIVE ACTION

#### ACTIVITIES/EVENTS

* + - The LP of Alabama is a Platinum Sponsor for the South Alabama March for Marijuana, a sub-program under the National March for Marijuana being lead by NORML.

#### FINANCE & FUNDRAISING

* + - We received a $1k endowment from the Poarch Creek Tribe of Indians that is earmarked for ballot access expenses.

#### MEDIA

* + - At Convention in March, the body voted to condemn the actions of the Etowah County Sheriff in the arrest of someone that was quoted in a local newspaper about the misuse of prison food funds for the Sheriff's personal gain and a press release went out. It was picked up by national news, so the Sheriff is in the hot seat over pocketing $750k, and the State is looking at changing the grossly outdated law.

#### INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

* + - Executive Committee members are becoming more skilled with NationBuilder and actually love using it. We've also decided to switch to a video conferencing platform - Zoom - which will allow us to do committee meetings via video, as well as record webinars, etc. Everyone is excited about it.

#### OTHER

* + - We have recruited a former Birmingham City Council member to the Party. She is now on the Executive Committee, and has taken on leading the committee for Legislature and Lobbying.

### ARKANSAS - **Michael Pakko**

#### STATE ORGANIZATION

#### STATE LEVEL MEMBERSHIP

* + - In November, the LPAR Executive Committee voted to change the state party dues structure to recognize a minimum $25 annual dues payment to the national LP as the equivalent of a membership dues payment directly to the LPAR. As a result of that change, our official dues-paying membership increased by 50% to 132. Since then, our membership roles have increased an additional 21% to 153.

#### COUNTY NEWS

#### CANDIDATES/CAMPAIGNS

* + - At our 2018 convention on February 24-25, the LPAR nominated 33 candidates for public office – a new record high. By nominating candidates for all seven statewide constitutional offices, and all four U.S. Congressional seats, we assured that all Arkansans will see at least seven Libertarians on their ballots in November. In the state legislature, 62 out of 118 seats up for election will be uncontested in November, but eight otherwise uncontested candidates will face opposition from Libertarians.

#### BALLOT ACCESS

* + CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS
		- In addition to candidate nominations, we passed several modifications to our bylaws, and selected delegates to the national convention. For the first time in our recent history, our delegate slots were oversubscribed prior to the convention.

#### FINANCE & FUNDRAISING

#### MEDIA

* + - The media has been quite inclusive in covering our newly-nominated candidates. A leading political media outlet covered our nominations prominently, and granted our gubernatorial candidate a television interview promptly. <https://talkbusiness.net/2018/02/libertarians-make-a-splash-with-candidate-nominations/> <https://talkbusiness.net/2018/02/libertarian-candidate-for-arkansas-governor-mark-west-wants-to-offer-something-different/>
		- Here’s an in-depth discussion of West’s campaign themes appearing in another local business/politics journal: <http://amppob.com/libertarian-mark-west-brings-message-big-stage/>

#### INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY.

#### OTHER

* + - Of course, we were extremely gratified to receive the attention of the national LP in their coverage of our “Success Story”. <https://www.lp.org/ballot-access-arkansas/>

### LOUISIANA - **Rufus Craig**

#### STATE ORGANIZATION

#### Rufus Craig - Chairman

#### Michael Dodd - Vice Chairman

#### Shannon Thomas - Secretary

#### Richard Fast - Membership Coordinator

#### Matt Fotsch - Treasurer

#### Sarah Stewart - Elections Officer

#### Keith Thompson - Communications Officer

#### STATE LEVEL MEMBERSHIP

* + - Ten (10) Organized Parishes
	+ PARISH NEWS

#### ELECTIONS

#### BALLOT ACCESS

#### ACTIVITIES/EVENTS

* + - LPLA Convention was held in Kenner on April 7th & 8th

#### FINANCE & FUNDRAISING

#### MEDIA

#### INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

#### OTHER

### MISSISSIPPI - **Denise Cranford**

#### STATE ORGANIZATION

#### STATE LEVEL MEMBERSHIP

#### COUNTY NEWS

#### ELECTIONS

#### BALLOT ACCESS

* + - We do not have problems with ballot access.

#### ACTIVITIES/EVENTS

* + - State convention in Jackson MS April 28
	+ FINANCE & FUNDRAISING

#### MEDIA

#### INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

* + OTHER
		- Danny Bedwell is running for US Senate

### OKLAHOMA - **Erin Adams**

#### STATE ORGANIZATION

* + - Officers are Erin Adams (Chair), Christina Wright (Vice Chair), Chad Williams (Treasurer), and Traci Baker (secretary).

#### STATE LEVEL MEMBERSHIP

#### COUNTY NEWS

* + ELECTIONS
		- We Have three (3) gubernatorial candidates who will face a primary on June 26th.
		- SB 788 that will allow for Medical Cannabis will be on our Ballot on June 26th. We expect it to pass.

#### BALLOT ACCESS

#### CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS

* + - On March 31st Oklahoma held its State convention.
		- The existing Bylaws were repealed, and replaced with a new set.
		- We adopted a platform, as we have never had one.
		- We passed four (4) Resolutions, including resolution calling for the resignation of Arvin Vorha, and the censure of an OKLP candidate.

#### FINANCE & FUNDRAISING.

#### MEDIA

* + - Our Candidates are campaigning Hard and getting good media coverage.

#### INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

#### OTHER

* + - The Oklahoma Libertarian Party elected Traci Baker as our new Secretary. This marks the first time in the history of the state of Oklahoma that a trans individual has been elected to serve on the executive committee of any political party.
		- As of April 7th 2018 the number of registered Libertarian voters in Oklahoma is 5549.

### TEXAS - **John Wilford**

#### STATE ORGANIZATION

#### STATE LEVEL MEMBERSHIP

* + - We had over 300 delegates at our state convention with a growth of over 50% from 2016.

#### COUNTY NEWS

* + - 80+ Affiliated Counties

#### ELECTIONS

* + - At the LPTexas Convention, the following statewide candidates were nominated:
		Neal Dikeman - US Senate
		Mark Tippetts - Governor
		Kerry McKennon - Lt Governor
		Michael Ray Harris - Attorney General
		Ben Sanders - Comptroller
		Richard Carpenter - Agriculture Commissioner
		Matt Piña - Land Commissioner (running against another Bush)
		Mike Wright - Railroad Commissioner (regulates the petroleum, natural gas, and mineral industries)
		William Bryan Strange III - Court of Criminal Appeals, Position 1
		Mark Ash - Court of Criminal Appeals, Position 8

#### LEGISLATIVE ACTION

#### BALLOT ACCESS

* + - #WEGOTTHIS

#### ACTIVITIES/EVENTS

#### FINANCE & FUNDRAISING

#### MEDIA

#### INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

#### OTHER